

*Special Meeting, October 29, 1897.*

President FRALEY in the Chair.

Present, 100 members.

The special meeting was held for the reception of communications on subjects of science.

Dr. Fridtjof Nansen, a recently elected member, was presented to the Chair, and took his seat.

Dr. Nansen presented a communication on "Some Results of the Norwegian Polar Expedition, 1893-96," which was discussed by Commodore Melville, Prof. Abbè, Prof. Heilprin and Mr. Amos Bonsall.

The reading of the rough minutes was dispensed with, and the Society was adjourned by the President.

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SOME RESULTS OF THE NORWEGIAN POLAR EXPEDITION, 1893-96.

BY DR. FRIDTJOF NANSEN.

(Read October 29, 1897.)

*Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen :—*

First of all, I beg to thank you most heartily for the great honor the Society has shown me and the cordial welcome you have given me.

It is with some hesitation that I come to discuss the results of the exploration from which I returned last year. The material I brought back is not by far worked out, and it will take years before it can be properly studied, and before this is done perhaps I ought not to talk much about the results for fear of giving you wrong ideas. But in the meantime I would like to point out a few of the more important points in our discovery, and I propose to begin with the geographical discoveries.

The whole plan of the expedition was based on a theory concerning the currents, about which we knew very little before. I thought, for various reasons, that there was a constant drift of